

Michael Angelo's grand manner. It implied audacity of imagination, dashing draughtsmanship, colossal scale, something demonic and decisive in execution." ¹ *Virtu* meant the ability to win success. Machiavelli used it for force, cunning, courage, ability, and virility. "It was not incompatible with craft and dissimulation, or with the indulgence of sensual vices." ² Cellini used *virtuoso* to denote genius, artistic ability, and masculine force.³ "The Italian *onore* consisted partly of the credit attaching to public distinction and partly of a reputation for *virtu* " in the above sense.⁴ It was objective, — "an addition conferred from without, in the shape of reputation, glory, titles of distinction, or offices of trust/'⁵ "The *onesta* of a married woman is compatible with secret infidelity, provided she does not expose herself to ridicule and censure by letting her amour be known."⁶ A *virago* meant a bluestocking, but was a term of respect for a learned woman. Modesty was "the natural grace of a gifted woman increased by education and association."⁷ The tendency of words to special uses is an index of the character of the mores of a period. The development of equality, when the restraints of traditional morality are removed, ought not to be passed without notice.

724. Extravagance of passions and acts. It followed from the "ways" of the period that the human race "was bastardized" "by the physical calamities, the perpetual pestilences, the constant wars, the moral miseries, the religious conflicts, and the invasion of ancient ideas only half understood." The men died young in years, old in vice, decrepit and falling to pieces when not beyond the years of youth.⁸ The emancipation of men with

inordinate ambition and lust meant a grand
chance of crime.
Pope Paul III (Farnese) said that men like Cellini, "
unique in
their profession, are not bound by the laws." Cellini
had committed a murder. He committed several others, to
say nothing
of minor crimes. After he escaped from St.
Angelo, he was in

¹ Symonds, *Catholic Reaction*, II, 392. ⁶ *Ibid.*, 420.

² Symonds, *Renaissance*, I, 416. ⁶ *Ibid.*, 420.

³ Symonds, *Autobiog.*, I, 74. ⁷ Gregorovius, *Lucretia Borgia*,
28.

* Symonds, *Renaissance*, I, 416. ⁸ Gauthiez, *Lorenzaccio*, 230.